O b j e c t i v e
Our goal is to advance public policy to eradicate hunger in New Mexico by building an analysis of the connections between hunger, malnutrition, food production, and distribution.

W o r k g r o u p M e m b e r s
Alzheimer Association
Center for Health Innovation
Center for Law and Policy
Farm to Table
Feeding Santa Fe
Food Depot
Food and Agriculture Policy
Health Action New Mexico
Hunger Caucus
Interfaith Hunger Coalition
Meals on Wheels
National Center for Frontier Communities
New Mexico Farmers’ Marketing Association
New Mexico First
New Mexico Nutrition and Dietetics
New Mexico Thrives
North Central New Mexico Economic Development
Roadrunner Food Bank
University of New Mexico, Honors College
Voices for Children

H u n g e r R e q u i r e s a C r o s s - s e c t o r A p p r o a c h
• New Mexico has the highest child hunger rates in the nation. 1 in 4 children in New Mexico are struggling with hunger.(1)

• A significant majority of New Mexico’s counties have food insecurity at rates greater than the national average.(2)

• Most families participating in SNAP have 1 or more household members that are employed.(3)

• While agriculture is a major economic driver in the state, over 90 percent of food New Mexicans consume comes from out of state, and nearly all food produced in New Mexico leaves the state. A stronger local food system would simultaneously help combat food insecurity and hunger while keeping more dollars in our local communities.

Rates of food insecurity and hunger in New Mexico reflect multiple systems failures. Therefore, our policy priorities are to:
1) Use data to inform decision-making
2) Promote local food systems and agricultural resilience
3) Increase the monthly food budget for families of low income

D a t a - I n f o r m e d D e c i s i o n - M a k i n g
• HB 75 $200K in the Department of Health budget to develop a Hunger Task Force to study hunger, malnutrition, food production and distribution.

• HM 6 establish a Taskforce to Address Barriers to Food Access by working cross-sector to identify the state’s assets, gaps and barriers related to the goal of ensuring that all New Mexico residents are able to have a nutritious and sufficient diet.

F o o d , H u n g e r , A g r i c u l t u r e W o r k g r o u p
2 0 2 0 L e g i s l a t i v e P r i o r i t i e s F a c t S h e e t

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For questions, please call Lilly Irvin-Vitela, President and Executive Director of New Mexico First at 505-234-0694 or email lilly@nmfirst.org